

REMARKS

Claims 78 and 85 have been amended. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 4-11, 16-19, 23-30 and 78-98 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

It is respectfully submitted that support for claim 78 can be found at least at page 29 through page 32 which describes Figs. 19-22, for example. Specifically, support for the positioning of the shaped object near a portion of the inner surface of the housing that is capable of being illuminated by light can be found in these sections, portions of which recite,

Fig. 19 is a perspective diagram of a computer system 310, in accordance with another embodiment of the present invention. By way of example, the computer system 310 may generally correspond to the computer 150 of Fig. 9. The desktop computer system 310 generally includes an illuminable housing 312 that is illuminated with light from an illuminated object 314 disposed therein. The illuminable housing 312 generally includes a translucent or semi-translucent wall 316 configured to allow the passage of light. In the illustrated embodiment, the illuminated object 314 is seen through the translucent or semi-translucent wall 316. That is, **the illuminated object 314 generates a first light effect (not shown) that is transmitted through a surface of the wall 316 to produce a second light effect 320 that alters the visual appearance of the computer system 310.** As should be appreciated, **the shape of the light effect 320 typically corresponds to the shape of the illuminated object 314.** By way of example, the illuminated object 314 may take on a variety of shapes including simple shapes such as squares and circles or more complex shapes such as an apple (as shown).

To facilitate discussion, Fig. 20 is a top view, in cross section, of the computing device 310 shown in Fig. 19, in accordance with one embodiment of the invention. As shown, the illuminated object 314 is disposed inside the illuminable housing 312. **The illuminated object 314 is generally positioned adjacent to the wall 316 of the illuminable housing 312.**

Support for the arrangement of the light pipe, which is used to transmit the light from the light source onto the illuminated object, can be found, for example, at page 31-32, which recite

“the light pipe 384 is configured to distribute the light 383 to locations within a housing **where it is needed**... The light pipe 384 generally includes a transmissive portion 386 at its interior and a reflective portion 388 at its exterior.

Because the exterior of the light pipe 384 is reflective, the light 383 reflects off the sides of the pipe as it travels through the interior of the light pipe. Accordingly, when light 383 is made incident on an inner edge 390 of the light pipe it is directed through the light pipe via the transmissive and reflective portions to an outer edge 392 of the light pipe where it emits the light to another location positioned away from the location of the light source. Any suitable light pipe may be used. For example, the light pipe may be rigid or flexible (as shown). **Flexible light pipes allow a wider range of light source positions relative to housing positions**. For example, the light source may be positioned in locations that prevent direct exposure to an illuminable portion of the housing, and thus the light pipe may be used to distribute the light to the illuminable portions of the housing by bending around components that prevent direct exposure (e.g., walls, frames and the like). In one embodiment, the light source is housed within an opaque portion of the housing, and a light pipe is used to direct light to an illuminable portion of the housing so as to produce the desired light effect. Furthermore, multiple light pipes may be used to direct light to a plurality of locations around the housing. This may be done with a single light source or multiple light sources.”

In other words, a light pipe may be used to distribute light wherever it is needed such as guiding light from a light source to the shaped object so as to illuminate the shaped object to produce the first light effect on the inner surface of the housing which then causes the second light effect to appear on the outer surface of the housing as required in claim 78.

Independent claim 85 requires a light guide for redirecting light from a light source to an inner surface of a housing. Additionally, claim 85 also requires that an exit opening of the light guide have a shaped configuration, “wherein the shaped configuration of the exit opening is projected onto the inner surface of the housing to produce the adjustable shaped light effect at the outer surface of the housing that substantially corresponds to the shaped configuration of the exit opening.” In addition to the sections noted above, support for claim 85 can also be found at page 32, portions of which recite,

Fig. 22 is a side view of a light source arrangement 400, in accordance with one embodiment of the present invention. By way of example, the light source arrangement 400 may generally correspond to any of the light sources (e.g., light emitting devices) described above. The light source arrangement 400 includes a **light source 402** and a **light guide 404**, which is **configured to focus light 406 generated by the light source 402**. The light guide 404, which covers a portion of the light source 402, is typically formed from an opaque material such that the light 406 emanating from the light source 402 is only directed out of an opening 408 formed by the light guide 404. In this manner, **the light exiting the opening has a shaped configuration that is more intense. The shaped configuration tends to illuminate a smaller portion of the housing than would otherwise be illuminated. The opening 408 may form any number of shapes.** For example, the opening may form a circle, an oval, a square, a rectangle, a

triangle, a letter, a logo or any other shape. In this particular embodiment, the light guide 404 is configured to cover the sides of the light source 402. In some cases, it may be desirable to use a light guide to block light from reaching light sensitive areas of the electronic device or to prevent heat sensitive areas from becoming too hot.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that claims 78 and 85 and their associated dependent claims are fully supported by the specification and that the 35 U.S.C. 112 rejections be withdrawn.

SUMMARY

Applicant believes that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully requests a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

Respectfully submitted,
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